

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12-14 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 2 was provisionally rejected for non-statutory double patenting over claim 18 of co-pending Application No. 11/328,255 which has subsequently issued as U.S. Patent 7,687,284 on March 30, 2010. Claims 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form. Claims 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 have been amended hereby. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and below remarks.

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claim 2 was provisionally rejected for non-statutory double patenting over claim 18 of co-pending Application No. 11/328,255. That application has subsequently issued as U.S. Patent 7,687,284 on March 30, 2010. Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the present application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173 of U.S. Patent 7,687,284. Submission of the Terminal Disclaimer does not represent acquiescence to the Office Action's rejections but is made to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 is therefore respectfully requested.

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 have been objected to as being dependent on rejected base claim 2, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form. Claims 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 have been amended hereby to be in independent form, incorporating all of the limitations of their base claim, claim 2.

Withdrawal of the objection to claims 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 is therefore respectfully requested.

As each of the claims of the present application are currently in condition for allowance, such action is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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